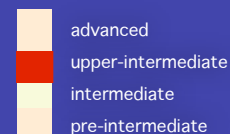


Quick Fix 189



Grammar Focus: perfect tenses

PERFECT TENSES

activity 1. Decide whether the following statements are true or false.

- There are two perfect tenses in English language.
- We use Present Perfect when an exact time is mentioned.
- In all perfect tenses, we use a form of 'have'.
- In all perfect tenses, we use the past participle of the main verb.
- Past Perfect is used in second conditional sentences.
- All verbs can be used in any perfect tense in English.
- We use Present Perfect to talk about things which happened in the past with an effect in the present.
- We use Past Perfect to talk about things which happened before something else in the past.
- We use Future Perfect Continuous to say that something will be complete by a certain time in the future.
- Perfect continuous tenses are used to talk about continuous activities.

- We always use Present Perfect Continuous for actions which are still going on.
- We can use Present Perfect Continuous for repeated as well as continuous activities.
- We use Past Perfect Continuous to say how long something had been happening up to a past moment.
- In Reported Speech, Present Perfect changes into Past Simple.
- Passive forms of Future Perfect Continuous are not usually used.
- We use Future Perfect to say that something will continue until a particular event or time in the future.
- If the Past Perfect action did occur at a specific time, the Simple Past can be used instead of the Past Perfect when "before" or "after" is used in the sentence.
- We can't use Present Perfect with time expression 'in the last year'.

activity 2. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct perfect tense.

- We _____ (wait) for five hours by the time his train arrives.
- When I looked at her I knew she _____ (cry).
- I _____ (not/read) this book. Can I borrow it?
- How long _____ (study) when you graduate?
- The price of petrol _____ (go up) a few times in the last year.
- I _____ (work) at this company for 10 years in September.
- I _____ (run). That's why I'm tired.
- We _____ (drive) for nearly nine hours when we got to Barcelona.
- When we arrived, the film _____ (start).
- By this time next year I _____ (save) £10,000.
- John _____ (work) all morning and was really tired when Ann asked him to give her a lift.
- I _____ (finish) the report by tomorrow evening.
- Our neighbour told me she _____ (decide) to move out.
- I _____ (visit) Russia many times.
- Everything _____ (go) well until that dreadful accident happened.
- I _____ (be) in Greece for ten months by the time I leave.
- I _____ (save) over £400 since Christmas.
- By midnight he _____ (be) unconscious for twenty four hours.
- The lift _____ (break down) - I'm afraid you have to use the stairs.
- She will still be working here next summer but I'm sure her deputy _____ (leave).
- Greg _____ (receive) six complaints since lunchtime.
- I _____ (talk) to a few mechanics, but nobody knows what's wrong with the engine.
- I _____ (drive) all day. I think I need a rest.
- I'm sure _____ (lose) ten pounds by the end of the month if you stick to your diet.
- You _____ (cough) a lot recently. I think you should see a doctor.
- She would have drowned if I _____ (see) her.
- Only when I got to my office did I realise that I _____ (forget) to lock the front door.
- My wife _____ (crash) the car again; it's the second time this year.
- It _____ (rain) for three days. We might soon have a flood warning.
- I _____ (drink) five cups of coffee today.

